

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Austria

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SUBJECT Organization of the Austrian
Communist Werkschutz

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1. The headquarters of the Austrian Communist Werkschutz (Factory Guard) is at Vienna II, Bocklinstrasse 57. About 60 persons are employed there, of whom the following deserve special mention:
 - a. Ribnikov (or Ribniakov). Director or chief of the Werkschutz; Soviet major, subordinate to the Director General of the SMV (Soviet Mineral Oil Administration). He succeeded one Colonel Schach-Ramsky.
 - b. Gebhardt-Stanzl, Major. Ribnikov's adjutant; an Austrian national and a former German Wehrmacht officer.
 - c. Oberbauer, Chief of Staff; resettled in Vienna a short time ago from Zistersdorf. He comes from Tyrol, fought in the Spanish Civil War.
2. Subordinate to the headquarters are two staffs (regimental staffs): Stab I and Stab II, with command and control of the various "platoons" of the factory guard.
3. To all appearances Stab I, which is in the Kantgasse, has been dissolved and is now united with the Werkschutz headquarters. The building and the installations belonging to the Werkschutz are at present guarded by Soviet troops.
4. Stab I consists of three platoons:
 - a. Platoon 1 is composed of 54 persons: The name of its commander has not as yet been ascertained. Platoon 1 has the following premises to guard:
 - 1) The purchase office of the SMV in the Schottengasse.
 - 2) The fitting and designing office in Brucknerstrasse in Vienna IV.
 - 3) The private installations (furniture, etc.) of the SMV which are stored in Mollwaldplatz, Vienna IV.
 - 4) The firms, Erdgas and B.V. Methan, which are both in the Habsburgergasse, Vienna I.

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DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

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- 5) The SMV garage in Paulanergasse.
- 6) The headquarters building of the Werkschutz in the Bocklinstrasse.
- 7) The firm of Rumpel A.G. in the Brucknerstrasse.
- 8) The motor depot near the Wasserturm (sic).

b. Platoon 2 consists of 48 persons and has the duty of guarding the Nova refinery at Schwechat. Platoon 3 consists of 50 persons who guard the Vösendorf refinery and the Shell installation in the Pilzgasse, Vienna XXI.

5. Stab II has its headquarters in Neusiedl a.d. Zaya and consists of 10 persons:

- a. Commandant: Polskoy, Soviet captain.
- b. Adjutant: Tenber, platoon commander.
- c. Political Director: Hiehl, Austrian, former resistance member.
- d. Chief of Local Staff: Ballas, platoon commander.
- e. Chief of Secretariat: Vojna, platoon commander.
- f. Accountant: Pola
- g. Secretaries and Typists: Jenny Führental; Fräulein Wagner, Sudetan, German.
- h. Commandant Polskoy's chauffeur: Pfeiffer.

A certain Gruber, who comes from Baden, is chairman of the Betriebsrat (works council) in Stab II.

6. Subordinate to Stab II are 9 platoons:

- a. Platoon 1: 120 persons; platoon commander: Wilhelm Schaden, Main guarding area: DEA I in Neusiedl.
- b. Platoon 2: 25 persons; platoon commander: Johann Benedikt. Area of employment: Van Sickel firm.
- c. Platoon 3: 30 - 40 persons; present platoon commander: Pankratz; former platoon commander: A. Glasser. Guarding area: DEA II (West) in Hauskirchen.
- d. Platoon 4: 40 persons; platoon commander: Leopold Hofbauer. Guarding area: Rangsdorf nr. Prinzendorf.
- e. Platoon 5: 25 persons; platoon commander unknown. Guarding area: Wintershall (WIAG) near Maustersdorf.
- f. Platoon 6: 100 persons; platoon commander: Backer, who was recently replaced by a member of the Werkschutz from Vienna. Guarding area: Mühlberg and Alt-Lichtenwarth.
- g. Platoon 7: 66 persons; platoon commander: Johann Rauscher; adjutant: Johann Posch of Zistersdorf. Guarding area: Zistersdorf.
- h. Platoon 8: 60 persons; platoon commander: Robert Sperl. Guarding area: EPG, Gosting, near Zistersdorf.

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- i. Platoon 9: 30 persons; platoon commander unknown. Guarding area: Matzen.
7. The platoons are divided into sections of three men each. The section leaders are called Gruppenführer. In general, each section has one building to guard. The factory fire service exists independently of the Werkschutz. It is not armed, but is organized more or less on the same lines as the Werkschutz. It numbers about 200 men at present and is located at Neusiedl a.d. Zaya. It is commanded by Ing. König.
8. The platoons of Stab I in Vienna are equipped with weapons of Soviet origin. Each section of platoon 1 officially possesses one pistol or carbine. The weapons of platoons 2 and 3 of Stab I consist of carbines and sub-machine guns of Soviet origin. Only the platoon commanders have sub-machine guns.
9. Stab II uses weapons of German origin. Platoon commanders and section leaders carry 8 mm pistols. The platoon commanders are in possession of a permit allowing them to carry arms also outside their place of work. The Werkschutz armory is at Bocklinstrasse 57. The depot at Kantgasse has been abandoned and transferred to Bocklinstrasse.
10. The headquarters of Stab I have the following vehicles at their disposal:
 - 1 passenger car, Fiat 1100
 - 1 limousine, Renault
 - 1 Opel Olympia
 - 1 Opel Kapitän
 - 1 motorcycle, Harley-Davidson
- In case of emergency or mobilization, Stab I has at its disposal 100-120 three to five-ton trucks which are parked at car pool I.
11. Stab II in Neusiedl has available one jeep, one Opel Olympia, and one Skoda. Wilhelm Schaden and the platoon commanders have a motorcycle for their personal use. In case of need, Stab II can use 160 three to five-ton trucks from car pool II and a further eight automobiles of the oil staff.
12. It has been proposed that the name of the Werkschutz be changed to "Bewachungs-

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Comment: The information contained in this report is somewhat outdated, but it conveys the best picture which has so far been received of the actual breakdown of the Werkschutz organization.)

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